

**REMARKS**

The specification has been amended to include a cross-reference to the parent applications and the published abstract.

The attached paper and computer readable copies of the Sequence Listing are the same. A separate Statement to this effect is attached. No new matter has been added.

Return of an initialed copy of the attached PTO 1449 Form which lists documents from the International Search Report, pursuant to MPEP § 609, is requested.

Acknowledgement of receipt of the foreign priority document from the International Bureau is requested.

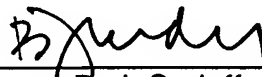
Acceptance of the attached formal drawings is requested.

An early and favorable action on the merits of the claimed invention is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

**NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.**

By: \_\_\_\_\_



B. J. Sadoff  
Reg. No. 36,663

BJS:ecb  
1100 North Glebe Road, 8th Floor  
Arlington, VA 22201-4714  
Telephone: (703) 816-4000  
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100